

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

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SUBJECT Financial Difficulties at Zeiss, Jena

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1. In connection with financial difficulties at Carl Zeiss, Jena, the DBA government recently sent 10 young engineers to the plant to investigate conditions and to report on their findings. The team remained in Jena for 8 weeks. (fnu) Chemnitz, head of the Main Section for Precision Mechanics and Optics in the DBA Ministry for Machine Construction, characterized the team's report as "a catalog of all stupidities which one could possibly imagine".
2. Leading DBA professional and political officials were to go to Jena on 30 September 1952 to discuss the Zeiss predicament.
3. Two corrective measures have already been instituted. Until now, distribution of finished products from Zeiss has been handled independently, to a large degree, of government trading agencies. Dr. (fnu) Adame has been responsible for sales. (Vertriebsleitung) under the over-all direction of Viktor Sandmann, business manager. Zeiss is now, however, being forced to handle all its sales through DIA and the DIA complex. Secondly, top personnel posts are being filled with recent returnees from the Soviet Union who are considered politically more reliable. Such are the recent appointments of Dr. Paul Görlich as head of the Main Scientific Department, Hans Braune as personnel head, and Fritz Köhrdanz as political supervisor.

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